

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 11-19 are newly presented herein and are directed to originally filed subject matter. No new matter is presented.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §112

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. In particular, the Examiner finds that there is no definition in the specification of the term “security attributes” and requests appropriate correction.

Applicants respectfully submit that no correction is required because the person of ordinary skill in the relevant art, to wit a person having ordinary skill in establishing and securing computer networks, will encounter no difficulty in understanding the ordinary meaning given to the term “security attributes” within the art of computer network security, and would thus be able to ascertain the proper scope and bounds of this term and of the claim as a whole with certainty. The Examiner himself apparently encountered no such difficulty in understanding the meaning of the term “security attributes” because as early as the very first Office Action issued by the Examiner in this case (on August 29, 2005), he expounded at great length on his opinion that the Helbig reference discloses precisely such “security attributes” as recited in claim 1. Applicants thus submit that the Examiner’s present about-face with regards to this term is unfounded and self-contradictory in light of the Examiner’s own earlier pronouncements. Applicants further note, in the interest of cooperation, that discussion of the meaning of “security attributes” may in fact be found in the specification, such as at page 5, lines 4-6.

In view of the preceding, Applicants submit that the Examiner’s request for correction is not in fact warranted and respectfully request the Examiner to kindly reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §102

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,716,101 to Meadows et al. In particular, and with respect to claim 1, the Examiner finds that Meadows discloses all claimed limitations. Applicants have attempted to understand the Examiner's rejection but the Examiner has made not one single direct connection between a claimed limitation and an element disclosed in Meadows, but rather has provided a general discussion of what Meadows allegedly discloses. Applicants thus submit that the Examiner's rejection is in clear and complete violation of the unambiguous requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.104(c)(2) that "the examiner must cite the best references at his or her command. When a reference is complex or shows or describes inventions other than that claimed by Applicant, **the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as practicable**. The pertinence, if not apparent, must be clearly explained and each rejected claim specified." Furthermore, given the complete lack of specificity on the Examiner's part, the Applicants in all good faith can do no more to reply than to provide their own discussion of Meadows *vis a vis* their claims.

Briefly, Meadows describes a system for tracking the location of known cell phones by use of a cell phone network matched with a geographical database. The cell phone network tracks the movement of a cell phone through registration signals transmitted over a specific channel and supplies information to a coordinator system that determines the actual geographical location of the cell phone which is in turn proved to the continuously updated geographical database. The presently claimed invention, on the other hand, provides a user a guarantee that computing platforms located in a certain geographical area and which are unknown to the user do possess certain security attributes (i.e. that they will behave in a trustworthy and reliable manner). Without agreeing with the Examiner's contention that Meadows' cellular phones read upon the presently claimed computing platforms, Applicants submit that nonetheless Meadows' system does not provide at least security attributes of the cellular phones to someone accessing the system of Meadows. The only information provided by the Meadows system is the geographical location of each phone – the Examiner surely understands that the geographical location of any entity is not a security attribute of that entity. Thus, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that Meadows does not in fact anticipate claim 1 and respectfully request the Examiner to kindly reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1. In light of the above discussion of claim 1, Applicants submit that claims 2-9 are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim 10 is rejected with the same rationale applied against claims 1 and 4, and Applicants therefore submit that claim 10 is also allowable in view of the discussion of claim 1 *supra*. Applicants specifically note that, in addition to the above, there is no mention whatsoever in Meadows of anything akin to the claimed computing platform having a trusted component, nor of an information system being arranged to communicate information to a user's portable computing apparatus upon request.

Regarding the prior art made of record by the Examiner but not relied upon, Applicants believe that this art does not render the pending claims unpatentable.

Applicants hereby present new claims 11-19 to more fully claim their invention. New claims 11-19 correspond essentially to claims 1-9, with the main difference that claim 11 recites that the system retrieves and provides upon request information relating to trusted computing platforms located within the pre-determined geographical area. This limitation is supported by the originally filed application and does not introduce new matter. Applicants also submit that no additional claims fees are due. In light of the above discussion, Applicants submit that new claims 11-19 are also novel and nonobvious over all art on record.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

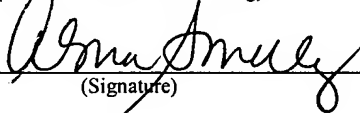
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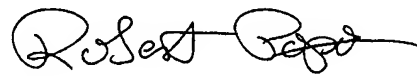


(Signature)

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Respectfully submitted,



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